

AI Index: NWS 11/10/91 add  
Distr: SC/PO

Amnesty International  
International Secretariat  
1 Easton Street  
London WC1X 8DJ  
United Kingdom

TO: PRESS OFFICERS

FROM: PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS

DATE: 15 MARCH 1991

**ADDITION TO WEEKLY UPDATE SERVICE 10/91**

1. EUR 48/WU 03/91 EXTERNAL  
15 March 1991

**YUGOSLAVIA: ARRESTS FOLLOW RALLY IN BELGRADE**

Two people were killed and up to 100 wounded during a rally on 9 March in Yugoslavia's capital, Belgrade, which had been banned by the police.

Leaders of the main opposition party had organized the rally to protest against the control of the Serbian media by the ruling communist party - the Socialist Party. As up to 30,000 people gathered in the main square, armed riot police moved to disperse them. A police officer and an 18-year-old man were killed in the clashes that followed and up to 100 people wounded. Towards the end of the day, army tanks moved into the city and took up positions outside key public buildings but were withdrawn within 24 hours. According to some reports, over 600 demonstrators were arrested, among them opposition party leaders Vuk Draskovic and Jovan Marjanovic.

Amnesty International called on the authorities to grant full legal safeguards in accordance with international standards to all those arrested and to release those who had neither used nor advocated violence. It also expressed concern at reports that police had beaten demonstrators and urged that all law enforcement officials carry out their tasks in accordance with international standards for the enforcement of law and order.

Thousands of demonstrators, many of them students, continued to protest in Belgrade and in several provincial cities in the four days that followed. On 12 March, Vuk Draskovic was released and the Serbian parliament agreed to the students' demand for a parliamentary commission to investigate the clashes of 9 March. Five media directors, including the director of Belgrade Television and Radio, resigned. The following day, the Serbian

Minister of the Interior offered his resignation, and some 280 jailed protesters were said to have been released.

AI Index: NWS 11/11/91 add 2

Distr: SC/PO

No. of words: 560

-----

Amnesty International  
International Secretariat  
1 Easton Street  
London WC1X 8DJ  
United Kingdom

TO: PRESS OFFICERS

FROM: PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS

DATE: 26 MARCH 1991

**ADDITION 2 TO WEEKLY UPDATE SERVICE 11/91**

1. MDE 17/WU 01/91 INTERNAL (for response only)  
26 March 1991

The following information on the upcoming mission to Kuwait from 26 March to 9 April may be used by press officers in response to media questions, but should not be issued as a statement.

In giving out information on the mission, you are asked to stress that the focus of the mission is the investigation of human rights violations committed in recent weeks and continuing now, as detailed in the news releases, Kuwait: Civilians at risk from reprisals - Amnesty International fears torture and executions (MDE 17/01/91) and Kuwait: Amnesty International calls for investigation into allegations of human rights violations (MDE 17/02/91).

In the investigation of human rights violations committed during the Iraqi invasion, we will be gathering additional material evidence to further document widespread violations, including arbitrary arrests, detentions, torture and extrajudicial executions.

In recent weeks there have been conflicting reports (mostly in the media) about the extent of the killing of babies by the Iraqi soldiers during the occupation and human rights violations committed during the Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait at the end of February. If reporters ask you to confirm specific details in the December report, we suggest you say that we cannot give any more information or confirmation until we have been to the country and carried out an investigation. We are doing that now and will be

issuing our preliminary findings within days of returning from Kuwait, probably in the second or third week of April.

Because of limited telephone contact with Kuwait, it will not be possible for us to arrange appointments for journalists with the delegates. Please contact the IS press office if you receive such requests from media with journalists now in Kuwait.

We have tentatively scheduled a conference call for 3pm Wednesday 3 April (UK time) to give press officers a chance to talk about the mission in more detail and raise any other questions you may have about our concerns now and during the occupation. Please get in touch with the IS press office by Thursday 28 March if you are interested in taking part. We will confirm the call on Tuesday 2 April if enough press officers show an interest.

-----  
INTERNAL (for response only)

Amnesty International is sending a six-person delegation to Kuwait to investigate reports of serious human rights violations in Kuwait in the past several weeks, including arbitrary arrests, torture and even executions.

The delegates will be interviewing victims and eye-witnesses of abuses, medical personnel and others during its two-week visit.

The delegation will also be gathering further evidence of abuses that occurred during the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, including arbitrary arrests, detention, torture and extrajudicial executions.

Amnesty International will be releasing its preliminary findings from the research trip in the second or third week of April.